



A HISTORICAL REPORT ON VARIOUS R+C GROUPS

# The Rosicrucians

BROTHERHOOD FOUNDED BY COSMIC MASTERS

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*“Life is Eternal. Creatures are transitory.”*

**Master Apis Kemet**  
(Hierophant of SVMMVM Organisation)

## Abstract



**T**HE ROSE CROSS (the juxtapositioning of a cross and one or more roses) has, since the early seventeenth century, become one of the most popular occult symbols. From its origin in Germany, it spread throughout the Western world. It entered into Freemasonry where various ritual degrees derived their name and meaning from the Rosicrucian legend. At least eight occult orders currently functioning in the United States accept the name Rosicrucian and a version of the Rosicrucian legend as their history.

According to the Rosicrucian legend, the order began with one Christian Rosenkreutz, born in 1378 in Germany. Beginning in 1393, he visited Damascus, Egypt, and Morocco where he sat under the masters of the occult arts. Upon his return to Germany, he began in 1407 the Rosicrucian Order with three monks from the cloister in which he had been raised. He also erected the House of the Holy Spirit (the Spiritus Sanctum) which was completed in 1409. The original group was enlarged to eight. Christian Rosenkreutz died in 1484 (at the age of 106) and was entombed in the Spiritus Sanctum. Knowledge of his tomb was lost, but it was rediscovered in 1604. its opening led to the spread of the Order anew.

Modern Rosicrucian groups have different opinions about Christian Rosenkreutz. Some believe he actually existed as the early documents assert; others see the name as a pseudonym for one or more historic personages (Francis Bacon perhaps). Still others view the story as a parable, and occult legend that points to more profound truth.

Knowledge of Christian Rosenkreutz and the Order he supposedly founded was given to the world in three documents in the second decade of the seventeenth century.

## R+C Documents

**P**RINCIPAL R+C Documents are “The Fama Fraternitas of the Meritorious Order of the Rosy Cross” (1614), “The Confession of the Rosicrucian Fraternity” (1615) and “The Chemical Marriage of Christian Rosenkreutz” (1616 pub purportedly written by Christian

Rosenkreutz in 1459). While the full facts of the case may never be known, research indicates that these three documents and the idea of the Order originated with a German Lutheran pastor Johann Valentin Andrae (1586-1654). Andrae had envisioned a society for the reformation of social life -- and he, with or without assistance from others, created the legend and published the documents describing it. A few have seen Rosicrucianism as a complete hoax. Most believe, however, that either Andrae formed an order combining his interest in esotericism and the reformation of society, which the documents promoted, or, more likely, Andrae wanted the documents to catalyze



others to initiate the Rosicrucian work.

The response to the documents was immediate and intense. Rosicrucian societies arose, and the rose and cross symbol (which seems to have derived from Andeae's coat of arms) became popular. The Rosicrucian groups combined a vision of social transformation, the study of alchemy, Cabalism, and mysticism with otherwise "orthodox" Christian theology. The Rosicrucian groups blended into the larger community of Christian pietism which could be found throughout Germany at this time.

During the seventeenth century Rosicrucianism spread throughout Europe. It found exponents in England almost immediately in the persons of Robert Fludd (1574-1637) and Michael Maier (1568-1622). In 1616, the same year The Chumical Marriage appeared, Fludd published his A Compendius Apology for the Fraternity of the Rosy Cross. Maier, and alchemical physician, both during his years in England and after his 1619 retirement to Germany, did much to bring Rosicrucianism and alchemy together.

The mystical piety of German Rosicrucianism produced the first Rosicrucian group in America. The Chapter of Perfection, as it was called, was formed by scientist-theologian Johann Jacob Zimmerman. Zimmerman joined other pietist groups in accepting the invitation of William Penn to migrate to Pennsylvania. However, just before the group sailed, Zimmerman died. Their beliefs included a strong millennialism, and the group brought a hope for the imminent return of Christ to earth with them when they came to America in 1694. Zinnerman's role was assumed by Johannes Kelpius (1673-1708) who led the small band to Germantown Creek. On top of their building they erected an observatory so as to discern the moment of Christ's second advent.

The Chapter lasted only a few years. After Kelpuis' death, his successor Conrad Matthai allowed the break-up of the communal structure, and the small group became a community of mystical hermits. Several of the members worked in the community as healers and practitioners of the occult arts. They passed along their knowledge of magic and occultism to later generations and became the source of the modern hexmeister tradition.

Rosicrucianism almost completely disappeared in the eighteenth century, but in the nineteenth century was a major component of the occult revival in the West. It emerged out of Masonry. In 1866 Robert Wentworth Little (1840-1878) formed Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia, open only to Masons. A Scottish branch was formed a few years later. Rosicrucianism never

completely died in France, but in the mid-nineteenth century it received a new impulse from occultist Eliphas Levi (1810-1875) who wrote three monumental works on magic: *The Doctrine of Transcendental Magic* (1855); *The Ritual of Transcendental Magic* (1856); and *The History of Magic* (1860). American Rosicrucian P.B. Randolph mentions meeting Levi on his trip to Rosicrucian gatherings in France. The renewed interest begun in Levi's time led to the formation of the Qabalistic Order of the Rosy Cross in 1888.

## Occult Orders

**R**OSICRUCIAN groups are occult orders, and as such make their central and most important teachings available only to members. In like measure no examination of documents and archives is allowed, and no independent corroboration of the claims of the various groups, especially their claims to ancient origins and European alliances, is possible.

**Fraternitas Rosae Crucis** - The oldest Rosicrucian body in the United States, the Fraternitas Rosae Crucis was founded in 1858 by Pascal Beverly Randolph (1825-1875). Randolph, a self-educated orphan of mixed blood, developed an early interest in the occult and in 1850 traveled to Europe and was initiated into a Rosicrucian Fraternity in Germany. On his third trip to Europe in 1858, he was made the Supreme master for the Western World, at a conclave headed by Supreme Grand Master Eliphas Levi. He returned to the United States and founded the Fraternitas Rosae Crucis. Two years later he returned to Europe and was initiated in 1861 in the Order of the Rose, a group headed by Rosicrucian historian Hargrave Jennings, and traveling on the Syria, he was initiated by the Ansaireh.

Randolph was succeeded by ex-Spiritualist Freeman B. Dowd (born 1812) who had been drawn to the Fraternity by reading Randolph's writings. he established temples in Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Denver. He also formed the Rosy Cross Publishing company in San Francisco. He retired in 1907 and was succeeded by Edward H. Brown (1868-1922). Upon Brown's death, Reuben Swinburne Clymer (born 1878) became head of the Fraternity.

Under Clymer, the Order, whose growth had been slow and erratic, blossomed. Clymer had joined the Fraternity in 1897 and coupled his training in the occult with a career in non-conventional medicine. His career kept him in continual conflict with the American Medical Association and the government. In 1904 Clymer founded the Philosophical Publishing Company, which reissued many of Randolph's books.

Upon his assumption of the leadership of the Fraternity, Clymer established the headquarters at Beverly Hall in Quakertown, Pennsylvania. He wrote voluminously, and his numerous books remain standard reading material for Rosicrucians. He brought his healing concerns into the Fraternity, and the headquarters complex still includes a chiropractic office and a clinic specializing in natural healing methods. Upon his death, Clymer was succeeded by his son Emerson M. Clymer, the present Grand Master.

Associated with the Fraternity is the Church of Illumination, a religious body and outer court for the Fraternity. The Church defines its task as teaching the Divine Law, the exoteric teachings of the esoteric group. The Church is the tool for bringing about the Masisis Aeon, in which the two natures in humanity (male and female) will reach a state of equilibrium.

Members of the Fraternity receive private instruction through lessons mailed from the headquarters. Teachings focus upon the transmutation of the base and inglorious aspects of humanity into the self pure and refined. Progress in the course can lead to ordination into the Council of Initiated Priests.

### **Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis (S.R.I.C.F.) -**

The Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis was founded in 1880 as the Societas Rosicruciana Republicae Americae. Charles E. Meyer was named the first Supreme magus. The S.R.I.C.F. originated with a group of Masons who traveled to England in 1878 and were initiated into the Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia at the college at York. They applied to the S.R.I.A. for permission to begin an American branch. Rebuffed, they turned to the Scottish branch which chartered American colleges at Philadelphia in 1879 and new York the following year. These two colleges established a High Council in April 1880 for what became an autonomous American branch. During 1880 three additional colleges were authorized for Boston, Baltimore and Burlington, Vermont.

The S.R.I.C.F. is one of the smallest Rosicrucian groups. One must be a Mason to join. The last issue of their magazine, The Rosicrucian Fama, published in 1973, set the membership at less than 600. In 1912 it adopted the rituals of the British and Scottish branches.

### **Societas Rosicruciana in America (S.R.I.A.) -**

The Societas Rosicruciana in America originated with members of the Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis who wished to open the Rosicrucian teaching to the general public (i.e. non-Masons). In 1907 Sylvester C. Gould, a member of the Boston college of the S.R.I.C.F., in collaboration with other rosicrucians, began the S.R.I.A. and a periodical, The Rosicrucian Brotherhood. Unfortunately Gould died in 1909 and the periodical died with him. The leadership of the infant Society, however, was picked up by George Winslow Plummer (1877-1944), who had assisted Gould in its formation, and under his leadership the Society began to grow.

Plummer incorporated the Society in 1912. In 1916 he founded the Mercury Publishing Company and began issuing Mercury, the official quarterly for the Society. by 1920 seven colleges (including one in Sierre Leone) had been established. Two more were added in 1921. By 1930 eighteen colleges had been chartered (though not all remained active) and there were seven study groups in other cities. After his death, Plummer was succeeded by his widow, known as Mother Serena, who published much of his work in a series of booklets.

Plummer had a strong interest in Christian mysticism and liturgical religion. Intimately connected to his Rosicrucian work, the Seminary of Biblical Studies operated out of the Society's headquarters and offered lessons in mysticism. Then in 1934 Plummer was consecrated as a bishop by Archbishop William Albert Nichols of the American Orthodox Church. He formed the Holy Orthodox Church in America, also headquartered at the Society's office. Two years later the Church reported four congregations, all located in cities which had S.R.I.A. colleges or study groups.

Plummer's widow married Stanislaus Witowski, whom Plummer had consecrated and who succeeded Plummer as head of the Church. After Witowski's death, Mother Serena became head of the Church and in 1982

was consecrated as bishop by Archbishop Adrian Spruit of the Church of Antioch.

### **The Ancient and Mystical Order Rosae Crucis (A.M.O.R.C.) -**

The largest and best known of the several Rosicrucian groups in America, the Ancient and Mystical Order Rosae Crucis, was formed by Harvey Spencer Lewis (1883-1939), a writer, artist and occultist living in New York City. In 1904 he had formed The New York Institute for Psychical Research, an occult interest group. Four years later, he met Mrs. May Banks-Stacey, a Rosicrucian who put him in touch with members of the Order in Europe. In 1909 he went to France, where he was initiated and given authority to begin an organization in America. He pulled together a group of interested occultists and in 1915 the A.M.O.R.C. was formally organized and a magazine, *The American Rosae Crucis*, began.

In 1917 the first national convention was held. The convention approved a plan for offering its teaching to individuals through correspondence lessons. These lessons, which have been widely advertised over the years, became the major tool for the rapid spread of the Order.

In 1918 headquarters of the order were moved to San Francisco. During these years Lewis formed ties with several occult groups in 1921 received a charter from the Ordo Templi Orientis. In 1925 Lewis moved to Florida for two years but moved back to California in 1927 and established headquarters at San Jose, on land the Order had acquired. He re-incorporated the Order in California and incorporated the Pristine Church of the Rose Cross, an affiliated religious group over which he served as bishop. The Church lasted only a few years as the Order began to stress its non-religious fraternal aspect and hence dropped its "religious" structure.

During the 1930s Lewis developed the headquarters complex which came to include the Rose-Croix University (1934), a Planetarium (1936), and the Rosicrucian Research Library (1939). Possibly the most famous structure at the headquarters, the Egyptian Museum, has received wide acclaim and become a popular tourist attraction for San Jose.

Though no membership figures are available, the A.M.O.R.C. has spread throughout the world and has groups in most non-Communist countries. It publishes two magazines, *The Rosicrucian Digest*, a monthly, and *The*



Rosicrucian Forum, for members only. Lewis was a voluminous writer and the Order circulates his many books, as well as those of his son Ralph M. Lewis (born 1904), who succeeded him as Emperor of the Order.

**The Rosicrucian Fellowship** - Several Rosicrucian groups have a direct lineage from the Theosophical Society, the largest one being the Rosicrucian Fellowship founded by Max Heindel (1865-1919) in 1907. Heindel, born Carl Louis Von Grasshoff, was an engineer whose occult interests led him to the Theosophical Society shortly after the beginning of the century. By 1905 he was a theosophical lecturer. Then in 1907 he traveled to Germany where there appeared to him several times one whom he described as an "Elder Brother of the Rosicrucian Order." He was sent to work with a knowledgeable teacher, believed by most to have been Rudolf Steiner, founder of the Anthroposophical Society.

Returning to the United States, he wrote down what he had been taught and published it as his first book, *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, still the major introductory text of the Fellowship he founded. The first center was founded in Columbus, Ohio, but within a few years centers could be found along the West Coast from Seattle to Los Angeles. In 1910, while recuperating in a hospital from his recurrent heart condition, he had a vision of the future center on Mt. Ecclesia in Oceanside, California. That center remains the headquarters of the group.

The Rosicrucian teachings of Heindel advocate the occult worldview of Theosophy. Heindel also picked up the astrological emphases of Theosophy and two of his books *Simplified Scientific Astrology* and *The Message of the Stars* were major factors in the twentieth-century revival of astrology in America. The Fellowship also publishes the popular *Ephemeris*, the annual table of the position of the planets in the astrological signs, a necessary tool for constructing astrological charts. A monthly astrology column continues to be an important feature in the Fellowship's monthly *Rays from the Rosy Cross*.

Heindel was succeeded by his wife, Augusta Foss Heindel, an accomplished occultist in her own right. In 1920 Mt. Ecclesia was dedicated. The Society has established some small groups, but the majority of its efforts are through various mail order courses it offers in astrology and the occult.

**Rosicrucian Anthroposophic League** - Harkening back to the influence of Rudolf Steiner on Max Heindel, S.R. Parchment, a former member of the Rosicrucian Fellowship, formed the Rosicrucian Anthroposophic League in San Francisco in the 1930s. Parchment wrote a series of books to expound his version of the Rosicrucian teachings: *The Middle Path*, *Steps to Self Master*, *Operative Masonry*, and *The Just Law of Compensation*. Parchment offered a variety of correspondence courses using the texts. The League also published a magazine, *Rosicrucian Quarterly*.

The occult basis of the League is spelled out in its objectives:

Investigate the occult laws of nature and the superphysical powers of man. Promote the principles which will eventually lead to recognition of the truth of the universal brotherhood of man, without distinction as to sex, creed, race or color. Acquire, disseminate, and exemplify a knowledge of spiritual truth as given to the world by the Elder Brothers of the White Lodge. Study and teach ancient religion, philosophy and astrology in the light of modern needs. Encourage the study of science and art in the hope that religion, art and science -- which are a veritable trinity, the equilateral triangle which has always been used as a symbol of the Divine -- may again be recognized as portals through which egos must pass in attaining to the mastery of self. Attain to self-conscious immortality which is the crowing feat of evolution. Like Heindel, Parchment had a prime interest in astrology and wrote an astrological classic, *Astrology, Mundane and Spiritual*. Since his death, the book has been kept in print by the American Federation of Astrologers. Recent information about the status of the League had been unavailable.

**Lectorium Rosicrucianum** -The Lectorium Rosicrucianum was formed in 1971 by former members of the Rosicrucian Fellowship in Holland under the leadership of J. Van Rijckenborgh. the Lectorium sees itself as a new instrument for the Universal Brotherhood, the spiritual hierarchy popularly known as the Great White Brotherhood. its basic teaching is termed "transfigurism," based upon the idea of two natural orders. The first is of God, the second that in which we normally live, the result of a catastrophe due to man's disobedience to Divine Law. The way to escape this order in which we are bound by the endless cycles of reincarnation is through transfiguration, i.e., giving up our lives in order to participate in God's

original order. The transition is exemplified in Jesus Christ's resurrection.

American headquarters of the Lectroium are in Bakersfield, California. English editions of Rijckenborgh's books, including his main work, *Dei Gloria Intacta*, and lesson material, are disseminated from there by mail to students across the United States.

**Ausar Auset Society** - The Ausar Society was formed by R.A. Straughn, known by his religious name, Ra Un Nefer Amen, a member during the 1970s of the Rosicrucian Anthroposophic League. A black man, Straughn became an occult teacher to the black community and around 1980 established an independent organization which applied the universal occult truths of Rosicrucianism to the Afro-American situation. Straughn has written several occult texts: *The Realization of Neter Nu*, *Health Teachings of the Ageless Wisdom*, and *Meditation Techniques of the Kabalist, Vedantins and Taoists*. Other books manifest the particular interest in the needs of black Americans: *Black Woman's*, *Black Man's Guide to Spiritual Union* and *Black Woman, Black Man in a Quandary*.

In 1980 he started a magazine, *The oracle of Thoth*, and by 1982 offered classes in the Society's occult teachings in New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Philadelphia, New Haven, and Norfolk.

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## The Rosicrucian Manifestoes

**T**HE Rosicrucian Manifestoes Mystical Origins: "Member of a worldwide brotherhood claiming to possess esoteric wisdom handed down from ancient times. The name derives from the order's symbol, a combination of a rose and a cross. The teachings of Rosicrucianism combine elements of occultism reminiscent of a variety of religious beliefs and practices." - Encyclopaedia Britannica

"The Rosicrucians offer an esoteric mystical gnosis . Truth is the Great Architect of the Universe. There are three principles, Salt, Sulfur and

Mercury, all contained in primal matter, Phar-Min Adama, represented by a circle encompassed by a square (the earth-heaven symbolism in Taoist art). The circle symbolizes Unity, from which the Quaternary Number results. Other Mystic Figures include the interlaced Equilateral Triangles, and the Blazing Star, the latter standing for 'that subtle Quintessence which penetrates all things in a moment by its moist and temperate

FAMA FRATERNITATIS,  
Oder  
**Entdeckung der**  
Bruderschaft des löblichen  
Ordens des Rosenkreuzes/  
Beneben der  
C O N F E S S I O N  
Oder  
Bekantnuß derselben Fraternitet/an  
alle Gelehrte und Häupter in Europa  
geschrieben.  
Auch etlichen Responſionen und Antwortun-  
gen/von Herrn Haſelmeyern vnd andern gelehr-  
ten Leuten auff die Fama geſtellet/  
Sampt einem Discurs von allgemeiner Reformation  
der ganzen Welt.  
Iſo von vielen Erraten entlediget / verbessert / vnd  
allen Trewhergigen zu gut in öffentlichen Druck  
mit Gott allein gefertigt.  
Gedruckt zu Franckfurt am Mayn / durch Johann  
Brüggern/in Verlegung Johann Berners.  
M. D C. X V.

fire and so communicates its gnosis'. The catechism from which that phrase is taken goes on: 'Why do you people speak so obscurely? - So that only the Sons of God may understand me.' But the ultimate aim is 'the joy of supplying the needs of men of good report' and 'only to be ignored by the world, only to live for God, Who is the sole aim of our true brethren'." - John Ferguson, *An Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Mysticism and the Mystery Religions*

"Paracelsus, a Swiss alchemist who died in 1541, is also regarded by some as the real founder of Rosicrucianism. Others, however, view 16th- and 17th-century developments as simply a revival of the order and contend that Rosicrucian doctrines not only flourished in ancient Egypt but were espoused by such outstanding philosophical and religious figures as Plato, Jesus, Philo of Alexandria, Plotinus, and others. There is, however, no reliable evidence to date the order's history earlier than the 17th century." - *Encyclopaedia Britannica*

"The psychological power of the cabal as archetype is illustrated by the original 'Rosicrucians' of the early seventeenth century. They - whoever 'they' were - announced their 'invisible' existence through the publication of inflammatory tracts and pamphlets. Their historical existence as an organization has never been satisfactorily established. Yet the belief in their existence was enough to engender a wave of hysteria throughout Europe - and, as Francis Yates has argued, to play a vital role in the development of seventeenth-century thought, culture and political institutions." - Baigent, Leigh & Lincoln, *The Messianic Legacy*

Christian Rosenkreutz "We, deputies of the principal College of the Brethren of the Rosy Cross, are staying visibly and invisibly in this town by the Grace of the Most High, to whom the heart of the just turns. We show and teach without books or masques how to speak the language of every country where we wish to be, to bring our fellow men out of the error of death." - Rosicrucian broadside "An examination of this most intriguing of secret organizations must begin with the *Fama Fraternitatis*, the earliest document that clearly and unambiguously mentions the brotherhood by name and purports to tell the story of its foundation. Written anonymously in German, the pamphlet was part of a larger Protestant treatise entitled in its first English translation *The Universal and General Reformation of the Whole*

Wide World: together with the Fama Fraternitatis of the Laudable Fraternity of the Rosy Cross, Written to All the Learned and the Rulers of Europe. The German manuscript probably began circulating around 1610, and the work was subsequently published in several languages. The first printed edition appeared in 1614 in the town of Kassel in western Germany." - Ancient Wisdom and Secret Sects "The Fama recounts the journeys of Christian Rosenkreutz, the reputed founder of Rosicrucianism, who was allegedly born in 1378 and lived for 106 years." - Encyclopaedia Britannica "Rosenkreutz apparently demonstrated great natural skills in medicine and healing, which brought him to the attention of the wisest men in the city. And he, in turn, found their knowledge of science, mathematics, and other arcane matters inspiring. The youth forthwith decided to put aside his original itinerary and to seek the wisdom of Arabia at its fount. The sages of Damascus directed him to a city called Damcar - a place that has never been identified and is presumed by many to be mythical. In Damcar, the Fama recounts the learned men 'to whom Nature was discovered' received the precocious boy 'not as a stranger but as one whom they had long expected; they called him by his name, and showed him many other secrets' - among them mathematics, physics, alchemy, and a document the Fama refers to as the Book M. This last treasure, whose full name is thought by some to be Book Mundi, or Book of the World, is said to have held the secrets of the universe. Young Rosenkreutz decided that he would translate this prodigious work into Latin, so that he might share it with others upon his return to Europe. "After three years in Damcar, Rosenkreutz traveled to Egypt, where he studied natural history and, presumably, the metaphysical writings attributed to Hermes Trismegistus, the legendary ancient Egyptian sage. The youth then journeyed to Fez, in Morocco, where he was introduced to magic and to interpretations of the Scriptures based on the medieval Jewish system of mysticism known as the Cabala." - Ancient Wisdom and Secret Sects "He is now generally regarded to have been a symbolic rather than a real character, whose story provided a legendary explanation of the order's origin. According to the Fama, Rosenkreutz acquired secret wisdom...which he subsequently imparted to three others after his return to Germany. The number of his disciples was later increased to eight, who went to different countries." - Encyclopaedia Britannica "Rosenkreutz himself finally died in 1484...and was buried in a large tomb, a secret one naturally. After all the original members of the group

died, the location of Rosenkreutz's tomb was forgotten, and was rediscovered only by accident by members of the third generation of adepts who were building one of their secret dwellings." - Daniel Cohen, *Masters of the Occult*

The following is a description of the tomb: "In the morning following, we opened the door, and there appeared to our sight a vault of seven sides and corners, every side five foot broad, and the height of eight foot. Although the sun never shined in this vault, nevertheless it was enlightened with another sun, which had learned this from the sun, and was situated in the upper part in the center of the ceiling. In the midst, instead of a tombstone, was a round altar covered over with a plate of brass, and thereon this engraven: ... 'This is all clear and bright, as also the seven sides and the two Heptagoni: so we kneeled altogether down and gave thanks to the sole wise, sole mighty and sole eternal God, who hath taught us more than all men's wits could have found out, praised be his holy name. This vault we parted in three parts, the upper part or ceiling, the wall or side, the ground or floor. 'Of the upper part you shall understand no more of it at this time, but that it was divided according to the seven sides in the triangle, which was in the bright center; but what therein is contained, you shall God willing (that are desirous of our society) behold the same with your own eyes; but every side or wall is parted into ten figures, every one with their several figures and sentences, as they are truly shown and set forth Concentratum here in our book'." - from the first pamphlet, "Fama"

"Inside the tomb there were said to have been alchemical books with a quasi-political overtone, definitely favoring the court of Frederick V, the Elector Palatine. All this was disseminated as gospel in a kind of alchemical Protestant revival. Curiously, these texts, *The Fama* and *The Confessio*, had many doctrinal similarities to Dee's *Hieroglyphic Monad*, so that it appears that Dee's earlier work was used as the model for the Rosicrucian broadsheets by their authors." - Terence McKenna, *The Archaic Revival*

Included amongst the book was "a copy of the *Vocabularium of Paracelsus*, by the renowned Swiss physician and alchemist." Paracelsus, "whose real name was Theophrastus Bombast von Hohenheim, was not even born until 1493, nearly a decade after Christian Rosenkreutz is said to have been buried." "Satisfied that they had done as Father Christian had wished 120 years before, the brothers closed the door of the vault and sealed it, knowing that it was now time to go forth with their message of worldwide moral renewal and to open the ranks to a new and larger membership." -

Ancient Wisdom and Secret Sects Johann Valentin Andrae "The third and last book in the Rosicrucian trilogy, The Chemical Wedding of Christian Rosenkreutz, appeared a year later in Strasbourg....The story of replete with rich allegorical details, as well as cosmological, alchemical, astrological, magical and chivalric symbols." "As the allegory began, Rosenkreutz was preparing for the celebration. All manner of trials, ordeals, and strange initiation rites were put before him, but he triumphed over them in what can be seen as a spiritual progression. Finally, he reached his destination and was greeted as the guest of honor. He was invested with the chivalric Order of the Golden Stone, an apparent reference to the legendary philosophers' stone, by means of which base substances could be turned into gold and silver. As in the earlier tracts, the author went to great lengths to indicate that the goal of Rosenkreutz as well as all the others who received the Golden Stone was a transmutation of the spirit and not the crasser sort of alchemy. " - Ancient Wisdom and Secret Sects This tract was eventually claimed by "a German Lutheran pastor Johann Valentin Andrae (1586-1654) Andrae had envisioned a society for the reformation of social life - and he, with or without assistance from others, created the legend and published the documents describing it. A few have seen Rosicrucianism as a complete hoax. Most believe, however, that either Andrae formed an order combining his interest in esotericism and the reformation of society, which the documents promoted, or, more likely, Andrae wanted the documents to catalyze others to initiate the Rosicrucian work." - J. Gordon Melton, Encyclopedic Handbook of Cults in America "...It is a singular coincidence that Andrea was a fervent Lutheran - and Martin Luther's coat of arms bore a rose and cross." - Arkon Daraul, Secret Societies

Rosicrucians in England "Several other documents on the Rosicrucian thesis were written, all confessing to have solved the riddle of the relationship between the microcosm and the macrocosm. This was also the name of a book written by Robert Fludd . Fludd is attacked by Kepler as a mystic who uses numbers as a form of cabalistic symbolism, and engages in a wild defense of his writings. Almost immediately, several Rosicrucian documents are written and circulated, all published by the same publisher in the Palatinate." "[Sir Francis] Bacon, Fludd, and Descartes, all claim to be Rosicrucians or searching for the Rosicrucians. " - Gerry Rose , "The Venetian Takeover of England and Its





Creation of Freemasonry" "In the Apology, Fludd described the Rosy Cross brothers as true Christians and the spiritual descendants of Hermes Trismegistus. He declared himself to be a disciple without being a member, and he thought it possible that there was no formal Rosicrucian organization; a community of minds sharing the same spiritual and philosophic goals was quite enough to constitute a movement, in his opinion. 'I affirm that every Theologus of the Church Mystical is a real Brother of the Rosy Cross'."

"Fludd singled out for broad reform the realm of mathematical sciences, including geometry, arithmetic, algebra, and optics, and he went on to express a kind of Rosicrucian dream that humankind's ethics, politics, law, theology, and economics might all be subjected to the scrutiny of virtuous people and ultimately made more harmonious." - Ancient Wisdom and Secret Sects

"The whole of mankind is surrounded by elemental spirits which can do him service. These could be brought to his will by the Rosicrucian by imprisoning them in a ring, a mirror or a stone, and compelling them to appear when desired. Here is a distinct parallel with Arabian cabalistical literature, some of which, folklorized, is in the Arabian Nights." - Arkon Daraul, Secret Societies

"Precisely as Celtic gods became the fairies of Christian Irish folklore, so did Persian, Egyptian, Babylonian, and Indian become the Jinn of Moslem popular belief." - Joseph Campbell, The Portable Arabian Nights

The Rosicrucians "claimed not to be bound by the limits of the present world, but to be able to pass into the next world (inaccessible only in appearance) and to be able to work in it, and to come back safe (and self-same) out of it, bringing their trophies with them..." - Hargrave Jennings, The Rosicrucians, Their Rites and Mysteries

Hargrave Jennings, a founder of the Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia, "hinted as strongly as he could that these rites and mysteries were of a fundamentally sexual nature, though to make his point in Victorian England he was obliged to resort to some involved and often poetically purple prose. Dancing around the theme of Tantric sex as the basis of the Rosicrucian philosophy, Jennings was almost specific when he pointed out that...the Masonic seal of Solomon symbolizes the intertwined triangles of male and female, which in conjunction represent life..."

## **The Brothers of the Rose Cross**

**A**LL those aspiring ones who align themselves, "in spirit and in truth," with The Western Wisdom Teachings, place themselves within the sphere of the Illumined ones of the human race whom we speak of as the Elder Brothers of the Rose Cross. It is greatly to our advantage as spiritual aspirants to realize the full significance of this fact and endeavor zealously to reap the full benefit of such a wonderful privilege. We can help make ourselves more attractive to their assistance by taking time to meditate upon them and their humanitarian endeavors, to send them our gratitude and love, to rededicate ourselves to serving them in their constant efforts of uplifting humanity.

The Brothers of the Rose Cross are Adepts, being among those Compassionate Ones, who, through many lives, have unfolded their inner faculties to a very high degree by loving, self-forgetting service to the race. They have passed through all the Lesser and Greater Mystery Schools, thereby reaching a stage of evolution which frees them from all the ties to Earth. However, they have elected to stay here on Earth as helpers, each being given work according to his particular interest and bent.

These Hierophants of the Western Wisdom Teachings have forged a second spinal cord by drawing the lower love-ray of Venus upward and transmuting it to altruism, conquering for it the dominion over the sympathetic segment of the first spinal cord and the left cerebral hemisphere now ruled by the passionate Hierarchy of Mars, the Lucifer Spirits. Thus each Brother is a complete creative unit on both the spiritual and physical planes, able to use the bi-polar force (masculine and feminine) through the double spinal cord, illuminated and raised in potential energy by the spinal spirit fires of Neptune (Will) and Uranus (Love and Imagination). This creative energy conceives in the twin hemispheres of the cerebrum, ruled by Mars and Mercury, a vehicle fit for the expression of the Spirit, which is then sent out and objectified in the world by the spoken Creative Word. By means of this power he is able to perpetuate his physical existence and create a new body before he leaves the old one.

All of the Brothers have a material body, and they live in a house (in Germany) which appears to be the home of well-to-do but not ostentatious people. They hold offices of distinction in their community, but these positions are only for the purpose of giving a reason for their presence. Thus they avoid questions and suppositions as to what they are or what they are doing. Outside their house and through their house is what may be called the Temple. It is etheric and is different from our ordinary buildings, but may be likened to the auric atmosphere around the Pro-Ecclesia or Temple at Mt. Ecclesia, in Oceanside, California (2222 Mission Avenue), which is etheric and much larger than the buildings themselves. Such structures are around churches and other buildings where people are very spiritual and of course differ in color. The Rosicrucian Temple is superlative and not to be compared to anything else; it so permeates with spirituality the house in which the Elder Brothers live that most people wouldn't feel comfortable there.

Being able to control their actions and emotions, the Brothers save all unnecessary strain upon their bodies. They know the exact elements required to keep up their bodies. They know the exact elements required to keep up their bodies, and the proper proportions in which to take them. Thus they secure the maximum nutrition and a minimum of waste. For that reason they may keep their bodies in a state of youthful preservation and vigorous health for hundreds of years.

Lay brothers who have been connected with the Temple for twenty to forty years in this life have indicated that the Elder Brothers look just about the same today as they did thirty or forty years ago. Judging by the standards of ordinary men they seem now to be about forty years of age.

It has been said by some of the lay brothers that Christian Rosenkreutz is today using a body which has been preserved for several centuries. This may or may not be so, but our august leader is never seen by the lay brothers who gather at the Temple(etheric) for the midnight service. His presence is only felt and is the signal for beginning the work.

To trace the beginning of the Elder Brothers of the Rosicrucian Order is as difficult as it is to find proof of the beginning of the first Manifestation of God. Since theirs is a work which aims to encourage the evolution of humanity, they have labored far back into antiquity--under one guise or another. We have historical proof, however, of the appearance as early as the

thirteenth century of advanced teachings which were to prove as a bright star to many.

During the past few centuries the Brothers have worked for humanity in secret. Each night at midnight there is a service at the Temple where the Elder Brothers, assisted by the lay brothers who are able to leave their work in the world (for many of them reside in places where it is yet day when it is midnight in the location of the Temple of the Rose Cross), gather up from everywhere in the Western World the thoughts of sensuality, greed, selfishness and materialism. These they seek to transmute into pure love, benevolence, altruism, and spiritual aspirations, sending them back to the world to uplift and encourage all Good. Were it not for this potent source of spiritual vibration, materialism must long ago have totally squelched all spiritual effort, for there has never been a darker age from the spiritual standpoint than the last three hundred years of materialism.

Seven of the twelve Brothers go out into the world whenever occasion requires, appearing as men among men, or working in their invisible vehicles with or upon others as needed; yet it must be kept strictly in mind that they never influence people against their will or contrary to their desires, only strengthening good wherever found. The other five Brothers never leave the etheric Temple, and although they do possess physical bodies, all their work is done from the inner worlds.

The Thirteenth of the Order is the Head, Christian Rosenkreutz, the link with a higher Central Council composed of Hierophants of the Greater Mysteries, who do not deal with ordinary humanity at all, but only with graduates of the Lesser Mysteries. He is hidden from the outside world by the twelve Brothers, as the central ball is hidden by twelve balls of even size. Even the pupils of the School never see him, but at the nightly services in the Temple his presence is felt by all.

Every midnight at their service the Elder Brothers open their breasts to attract the darts of hate, envy, malice, and every evil that has been launched during the past twenty-four hours. First, in order that they may deprive the Black Grail forces of their food; and secondly, that they may transmute the evil into good. Then, as the plants gather the inert carbon dioxide exhaled by mankind and build their bodies therefrom, so the Brothers of the Holy Grail transmute the evil within the Temple: and as the plants send out the renovated oxygen

so necessary to human life, so the Elder Brothers return to mankind the transmuted essence of evil as qualms of conscience along with the good in order that the world may grow better day by day.

During the Temple Service the twelve Brothers, together with the lay brothers, function in their soul bodies. Hence it is evident that the presence of the Head of the Order is altogether spiritual. Nevertheless, he is always active in the affairs of the world, working with the governments of the nations in the Western World to guide them along the appropriate path of their evolution. To this end he appears in a physical embodiment, at least part of the time.

After the first year of World War I the Elder Brothers, by dint of hard work and organization, succeeded in creating an army of Invisible Helpers who, having passed through the gate of death and having felt the sorrow and suffering incident to an untimely transition, were filled with compassion for the others who were constantly pouring in, and became qualified to soothe and help them until they also had found their balance.

The Elder Brothers all possess the external picture consciousness of the Jupiter Period, which they use in initiating their pupils into the Rosicrucian Order. The Initiator fixes his attention upon certain cosmic facts, and the candidate, who has become fitted for certain powers, is like a tuning fork of identical pitch with the vibration of the ideas sent out by the Initiator in pictures. Therefore, he not only sees the pictures but is able to respond to the vibration, and the latent power within him is converted into dynamic energy and his consciousness is lifted to the next step upon the ladder of initiation.

The mass of humanity is taken care of by the religion publicly taught in the country of their birth; but there are always pioneers whose precocity demand a higher teaching. To them a deeper doctrine is given through the agency of the Mystery School belonging to their country. When only a few are ready for such preparatory schooling they are taught privately, but as they increase in number the teaching is given more publicly. The latter is the case in the Western World at present. Therefore the Brothers of the Rose Cross gave to Max Heindel the Philosophy as published in *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception* and sanctioned the launching of *The Rosicrucian Fellowship* to promulgate the Teaching. The purpose is to bring aspiring souls into contact with the Teacher when by service here in the Physical World they have shown their sincerity and given reasonable assurance that they will use their

spiritual powers for service in the other world when they shall have been initiated therein. The scientific method of soul unfoldment advocated by the Elder Brothers is always bound to benefit anyone who practices it and can never under any circumstances cause harm to anyone.

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#### EDITOR'S NOTES:



Rev. Illuminatus Dr. Ana Lucia Melo Gonçalves (Analu), SRC, 7Ph.D., born in 26 of March of 1955 CE, passed on January 21, 2007 CE, was chosen by SVMMVM Organization as "Rosicrucian of the Year of 2007" for the great services of cure R+C given to the animals abandoned throughout the last 13 years using esoteric methods of healing developed by Dr. Harvey Spencer Lewis, Ph.D., AMORC First Imperator ("Rosicrucian of The Year 2006"). Member of the Sacred Esoteric Hierarchy of the Rosicrucian Order, AMORC, Initiated of the Seventh Degree of the Pharaoh (Illuminates Of Kemet Supreme Degree) and General-Secretary of the Order of Maat, Inc., Soror Ana Lucia served to the AMORC during various years in Brazil, SA, as Officer, having been Secretary of Niterói R+C Lodge and Master of it Pronaos, Lecturer, Cultural Monitor and Regional Monitor of Region RJ3 (Rio de Janeiro State). Orphaned very young, Ana Lucia worked and studied, getting a bachelors degree in medical area, with lato sensu in high school teacher. Some of the lectures of Soror Ana Lucia, in the AMORC and in the FRA (Fraternitas Rosicruciana Antiqua) Lodges are available on the Net in the digital book "Psychic Phenomena", online in: <http://maat-order.org/fenomenos/> Between the lots of animals, like dogs and cats, adopted and healed by ortodox medical methods and esoteric (Rosicrucian) methods by Soror Ana Lucia, is the female cat Pitucha, that was total blind and came back to see with the R+C healing by this notable Rosicrucian Soror. Photos of Pitucha can be seen in: <http://svmmvmbonvm.org/pitucha.htm> One of the not human animals adopted by the Soror Ana Lucia who if became celebrity was the little dog Ralph, on who exist a digital book online in: <http://svmmvmbonvm.org/rcralph/>

Source: <http://svmmvmbonvm.org/orosacruzdoano.htm>



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